

INTIMATIONS

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**A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,**
HONGKONG AND CHINA.

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BIRTH.

HICKMAN.—On October 20th, at 103, The
Peak, the wife of H. F. HICKMAN, of
a son. [1914]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOGES ROAD C.
LONDON OFFICE: 191, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, OCTOBER 21st, 1914.

At times like the present we are enabled to view, as in a limelight, the relative temperaments of every individual. Tradition is truthful when it lays down that the Englishman takes a deal of rousing to the true significance of any great happening; but when the dormant realisation of things has been awakened the Englishman is a person very much alive. We have had numerous examples of this transition during the past few months; yet the traditional slow beginning was there for a period which, though necessarily brief, was quite long enough to be made apparent. Now he is thoroughly roused, and because all his senses are bright and keen, and readily respond to every touch, many of his kin are, quite naturally, yielding to the strong temptation to become joyfully and verbally excited, and then, with a remarkable suddenness, to jump at other conclusions, become distastefully morbid, and fire unkind and uncalled-for remarks at persons, whom, but a few hours before, they were cap-waving and idolising. These people of kaleidoscopic minds are to be found everywhere, and can be quite easily overheard—their unguarded remarks are intended to be heard generally—in the public places even of Hongkong, where we sleep soundly and peacefully in our beds each night. They are the people who, at the commencement of war, and when gallant little Belgium was temporarily checking the Kaiser's legions, passed at once from their obvious panic at the suddenness of the plunge of the nations into a great war, to ridiculous over-confidence. Then the legend that the German military bubble had been pricked was a street topic which thrived and grew up under the influence of heady announcements of "Great Defeats" and "Severe Reverses." The conception of things then seemed to be: if little Belgium can hold up Germany's best troops for a whole fortnight, what will happen when the English and French are ready? The Allies were

to be in Berlin with lightning rapidity; there was nothing to be left of the much-vaunted Colossus of German militarism. All this was so much electricity to the volatile man; there was, to employ a common vulgarism, no holding him. Now the sobering element has been gradually introduced, and we realise that the struggle is, and will continue to be, a grim one to the end. Serious thinkers knew that any idea of instant success was but imaginary; our success will have to be a gradual development, it will entail much sacrifice, and we must steel ourselves and wait patiently. Successes must be greeted with a discreet appreciation of the valour and self-sacrifice involved, and reverses must be taken as but incidents in the greatest war in history. Temperaments must be kept in control and the monotony of waiting and waiting must be met with that doggedness which is the cherished characteristic of an Englishman. The great German war machine is not, perhaps, all that is claimed for it; it may be too much of a machine and far too intricate for the brains which control it. But that it is a terribly efficient piece of mechanism, capable of much havoc when controlled by ordinarily intelligent hands, is now apparent to the whole world. It is also patent that the Prussian has lost none of his tenacity, his phlegmatic and almost fatalistic contempt for death, and rigid obedience to commands. Against this, in the historical coolness and steadiness of the English troops the German leaders have to prepare against an obstacle of the first significance. In the same way that our army, it may be safely asserted, has precisely the right mixture of a proper respect for the foe and a full appreciation of his weak points, so would it be well if the matter could be viewed by us all in a similar perspective. People would then be fortified and prepared for the stern tramp of success and sacrifice, and the equally stern march of sacrifice and reverse. Again, the terribly grim nature of the struggle also possesses a feature, which, in face of previous apathy on the part of a certain section of the English people, and because of the existence of a peace-at-any-price organisation, cannot be over-looked. With a victory easily won there are those Englishmen who would return to those habits and thoughts which constitute a more deadly menace to the stability of a State than almost any degree of external danger; internal inactivity and an incomprehensible shelving of the obvious that war and subsequent extension of power and development of wealth breeds jealousy and enemies. The seriousness of the encounter upon which we are now so relentlessly engaged has brought us face to face with the fact that nations can still be jealous to the point of hatred, a hatred so formidable that it explodes into an international war, and a lesson has been taught to those who laughed at the efforts of such institutions as the National Service League, for instance. It was the volatile individual who saw no apprehension of danger even when such men as Earl Roberts urged a diminution of the menace contained in the growing regard for frivolity. The shock of reality has resulted in the freezing out of this irresponsible frivolity, and the lesson has been taught that war is a tremendously serious business. The volatile man, who previously expended his energies upon a lot of sham and artificial excitement, has now realised that England must put away all this and settle down to the mood of a determined people, prepared to suffer all things rather than betray obligations to their successors, but all the while strengthening her determination to emerge from the conflict of arms triumphant over the common foe of Europe.

Mr. F. Maitland was summoned at the Magistracy yesterday for allowing two dogs to be at large without muzzles. He pleaded guilty, and was fined \$5.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks a donation to the funds of the hospitals of \$56 by St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon.

There is reason to believe that the old Chinese Regiment of Infantry which was so foolishly disbanded some years ago, will be revived in due process of time, says the military correspondent of the *L. & C. Express*.

Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Second Magistrate, fixed for hearing on Thursday morning the case in which E. M. Alberg is charged with causing grievous bodily harm to a British sailor named Barry in the King Edward Hotel. Barry has sufficiently recovered to be allowed out from the Naval Hospital.

The St. Joseph Boy Scouts (Baden Powell) under the charge of Mr. Blake, of the Victoria Theatre, are arranging a concert to be given in their headquarters on Saturday, November 14th, when the whole proceeds will be given to the Prince of Wales Fund. A feature of the evening will be displays and sketches by the Scouts.

THE WAR.

(THROUGH REUTERS AGENCY.)

PROGRESS OF THE GREAT BATTLE.

FRENCH OFFICIAL REPORTS.

ALLIES REACH WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS OF DEFENCE IN THE ARRAS REGION.

LONDON, October 19th.
5.05 p.m.

Today's communiqué from Paris states:—

In Belgium the enemy has heavily bombarded without result in front of Nieuport. The Allies, notably the Belgian Army, have not only repulsed fresh attacks but have advanced to Roulers.

We have progressed between the Lys and La Bassée canal, in the direction of Lille, and there is violent fighting on the front at La Bassée, where we are advancing house by house.

North and South of Arras our troops have been fighting for ten days with irresistible tenacity and dash. We repulsed a strong German counter-attack at Chaulnes and gained ground. There is nothing to report from the centre. Our advance guards from Alsace are on the line Bonhotame-Bairis-Sulzern. We still occupy Thann.

LONDON, October 20th.
1.30 a.m.

An official statement issued in Paris at 11 p.m. says:—

In Belgium the German attacks between Nieuport and Dixmude have been repulsed by the Belgian Army.

There have been slight advances between Arras and Roye and our troops at several points have reached the wire entanglements of the defence.

We have gained ground on the right bank of the Meuse in the vicinity of St. Mihiel.

There is nothing of importance from the remainder of the front.

FIGHTING WITHOUT REST FOR TEN DAYS.

Following is the latest French Government circular, *via* Peking:—
October 20th.
11.15 p.m.

The Allied advance was particularly marked on the 18th to the south and north of Arras, where the allied troops have been fighting without rest for ten days.

Their fighting spirit is at its highest point.

The new progress of the Allies is between La Bassée Canal and the River Lys, in the direction of Lille.

The German attacks between Lys and the sea have been repulsed, chiefly by the Belgian army.

GERMANS IGNORE ALLIES' ADVANCE.

LONDON, October 19th.

A message from Amsterdam says that the German *communiqué* ignores the Allies' advance and only says the enemy's attacks west and north-west of Lille have been repulsed, adding that there is no change in the eastern theatre.

BRITISH GENERAL KILLED.

LONDON, October 19th.
3.35 p.m.

General Hubert Hamilton was under cover when a shell burst amid a group. He was hit in the temple and instantly killed. None of the others were touched.

[Major-General Hubert Ion Wetherall Hamilton, C.B., D.S.O., was with the Burmese Expedition of 1886-88 and took part in the Egyptian campaigns of 1897-98-99, including the battles of Atbara and Khartoum, being mentioned in despatches three times and securing the D.S.O. decoration. He was Military Secretary to Lord Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, 1900-02 (being again mentioned three times in despatches), and he acted in a similar capacity when Lord Kitchener was Commander-in-Chief in India, from 1902 to 1905. Since 1911 Major-General Hamilton had commanded the North Midland Division.]

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

LONDON, October 19th.
12.25 p.m.

There have been mentioned in despatches 806 officers and 625 Non-commissioned officers and men, fully representative of the various regiments. The names of Privates and Non-commissioned officers appear side by side with the names of Generals, Colonels and such ranks. A dozen Chaplains, drummers, a saddler and a shoing smith along with trumpeters are mentioned, also some Territorials.

OSTEND REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN RE-TAKEN.

LONDON, October 20th.
3.00 a.m.

The correspondent of the *London Morning Post* in the north of France reported on Monday that he had been informed on excellent authority that Ostend had been re-taken by the Allies.

(THROUGH REUTERS AGENCY.)

GERMANS' "CRAZY ATTEMPT" APPROACHING IGNOMINIOUS FAILURE.

LONDON, October 20th.

The *Daily Mail* Paris edition says the enemy's crazy attempt to rush to the Straits of Dover is rapidly approaching fruition—namely ignominious failure. Beginning with the battle of Lille a fortnight ago, a steady succession of defeats has broken the southern half of the German line. The Germans have been reinforced to the last man, but must advance under the worst conditions, for the country, which is ordinarily easy to defend, is now converted into a quagmire by heavy rains.

JAPANESE CRUISER SUNK BY MINE AT TSINGTAU.

LONDON, October 19th.

An official message from Tokyo says that the Japanese cruiser *Takachiho* was sunk by a mine in Kiauchow Bay on Saturday night. One officer and nine men were saved.

LATER.

A message from Tokyo states that 254 men of the *Takachiho* were drowned.

Mr. S. Imai, Consul-General for Japan at Hongkong, has forwarded the following telegram received by him yesterday from the Japanese Government:—

"Japanese cruiser *Takachiho* sank, striking mine midnight 17th October while in service off Tsingtau."

[The *Takachiho*, which was reported to have been removed from the active list, had a displacement of 3,700 tons, and an indicated horse-power of 7,500. She was launched at Elswick in 1885, and completed in the following year. Her armament is given as: 2 10.2in. (A), 6 6in., 2 3in., 10m. She also had four torpedo tubes. The vessel's complement was 335.]

AUSTRIAN SUBMARINES ATTACK FRENCH FLEET.

A SUBMARINE SUNK.

LONDON, October 19th.
2.00 p.m.

A telegram from Cetinje states that two Austrian submarines from Cattaro attacked the French Fleet while cruising along the Dalmatian coast. The cruiser *Waldeck Rousseau* sank a submarine, and the Fleet then bombarded Cattaro.

An Austrian aeroplane dropped bombs on the French warships escorting transports while off Antivari, but no damage was done.

[The telegram is slightly mutilated, and it is not clear whether the cruiser sank only one or both submarines.—Ed.]

A CHALLENGE BY TURKEY.

DECLINES TO DISCHARGE GERMAN CREWS OF THE PURCHASED CRUISERS.

LONDON, October 19th.

A Constantinople telegram states that Turkey, replying to British representations, has finally declined to discharge the German crews from the cruisers *Goeben* and *Breslau*.

RUSSIAN SUCCESSES.

LONDON, October 19th.

A telegram from Petrograd says that an official *communiqué* states that the Russians gained partial successes at Warsaw in very hot engagements; also to the south of Przemysl.

GENERAL WAR ITEMS.

THE TRAFALGAR CELEBRATION IN LONDON.

LONDON, October 20th.

The deep significance of this year's Trafalgar celebration is attested by the decorations of the Nelson column. The deathless signal ("England expects every man this day to do his duty") is displayed in giant lettering on the base of the plinth, and near it are wreaths to the memory of the lost cruisers.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL FOR THE NAVY.

LONDON, October 19th.

His Majesty the King has approved of a Distinguished Service Medal for the Navy in cases where the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal is not applicable.

THE MINE-DAMAGED DUTCH STEAMER "NOORDAM."

LONDON, October 19th.

A message from Amsterdam states that the Dutch steamer *Noordam*, which struck a mine in the North Sea, has arrived at Maassluis with her stern and rudder slightly damaged.

SUGAR PROHIBITION REMOVED.

LONDON, October 19th.

The prohibition of the export of sugar has been withdrawn in regard to British East Africa, West Africa, Malta and St. Helena.

BRITISH PLATELAYERS FOR THE FRONT.

LONDON, October 19th.

A thousand British platelayers are going to the front to mend the railways.

TELEGRAMS.

["DAILY PRESS" EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.]

REDUCED EXPORT DUTY ON CHINA TEA.

PEKING, October 19th.

Liang Shi-yi has memorialised the President for a reduction of the export duty on tea to one tael per picul, in order to encourage the trade. He also suggested the establishment of stations in the producing districts for the purpose of prohibiting adulteration.

The President has agreed to these recommendations.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

THE WICKED BRITISH!

WHY ANTWERP DID NOT FALL EARLIER.

LONDON, October 12th.
Amsterdam. The *Herliner Tageblatt* makes the fall of Antwerp the text for a violent denunciation of England. It says: "Behind the Belgian defenders stood England, one may say, with whip in hand. When the thought rose in Belgian hearts to avoid useless destruction by capitulation Britain pronounced a veto, and all were obliged to obey, even the King. This is why a town so full of life and industry is severely damaged. On the day of misadventures thousands will fall on the seducer across the Channel."

GERMAN SPIES IN ENGLAND.

ORGANISATION STAMPED OUT.

LONDON, October 8th.
The Home Office has issued a statement describing how the German spy organisation in England has been completely suppressed. For three years past the ramifications of the German secret service in England have been known and the agents shadowed, though no action was taken which might reveal to them that their identity was known. Arrests were only made when important documents were actually going to Germany. In such cases sufficient evidence was usually found in possession of the prisoner and thus, despite lavish expenditure, little valuable information was obtained. However, on August 4th, before the declaration of war, twenty known spies and two hundred suspects were arrested. Espionage is now tryable by court-martial and punishable by penal servitude for life. One person is now awaiting court-martial, but this is the only case, and there is reason to believe that the spy organisation was crushed at the outbreak of war and has not been re-established. The statement mentions that the German army order of August 2nd showed that the Germans were in ignorance of the despatch of the British force.

GERMAN DESTROYER'S CREW LOST.

LONDON, October 7th.
Submarine *E9* returned safely to Herwich after sinking a German destroyer off the Ems River. It appears she was once only a hundred yards from the destroyer and waited her chance. The first torpedo missed, but the second went home, and exploding, the destroyer sank almost immediately, torn in two. The sailors say all was finished in three minutes. It is not believed any of the crew of eighty were rescued.

A GERMAN GRIEVANCE.

LONDON, October 8th.
One of the German grievances is being cut off from communication with the outside world. Eleven cables have been either cut or interrupted.

GERMAN PRISONERS IN FRANCE.

LONDON, October 8th.
The *Daily Chronicle* Paris correspondent says it is believed that there are not far short of a hundred thousand German prisoners in France. Trains with prisoners pass the outskirts of Paris daily.

THE KAISER.

LONDON, October 8th.
A telegram from Belgrade says the Kaiser is reported to have left East Prussia and returned to Cologne, and adds that his return has caused discontent among the General Staff.

THE OFFICERS' CASUALTIES.

LONDON, October 7th.
Every German regiment has a body of sharpshooters, who pick off the Allies' officers. This accounts for the disproportionate losses of officers, especially among the French.

TERRIBLE GERMAN GUNS.

LONDON, October 7th.
The *Times* correspondent, describing the havoc caused by the German heavy guns, says nothing is left standing within forty or fifty feet. One shell dropped among a squad of forty horses and the whole batch were blown to pieces.

LUXEMBURG ARMY SENT TO GERMANY.

LONDON, October 7th.
The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg is interned in the Castle of Nuremberg and the Luxembourg army has been transported to Germany, except the Commandant.

U. S. AND DIRIGIBLES.

LONDON, October 8th.
The United States is inviting tenders for dirigibles.

BELGIAN GREY BOOK.

MORE LIGHT ON GERMANY'S DIPLOMACY.

LONDON, October 7th.
Further light is thrown on the diplomatic negotiations relating to the outbreak of war by the publication of a Belgian Grey Book. The German Minister, on July 31st, informed the Belgian Foreign Office that he was certain that the view expressed by his predecessors in 1911 about respecting Belgian neutrality were unchanged. The same Minister even on Aug. 2nd said Belgium knew his personal opinion upon the security which Belgium was entitled to feel regarding her eastern neighbour. The Belgian Minister replied that he was aware of the German intentions, but would attach the greatest value to a formal declaration. At five the same day the German Minister presented an ultimatum demanding the free passage of German troops or Belgium would be treated as an enemy.

Early next morning the German Minister said he had been instructed by his Government to inform Belgium that French airships had thrown bombs and a patrol of French cavalry had crossed the frontier, thereby violating international law. The Belgian Secretary-General asked where and the German Minister replied, "In Germany." The Secretary-General observed that in that case he failed to understand the object of the communication. The German Minister rejoined that these acts were contrary to the law of nations and were of a nature to cause it to be supposed that other acts against the law of nations would be committed by France. Next day the German Minister in a final communication said in view of the Belgian Government's refusal of Germany's well-intentioned proposals, Germany would be obliged, if necessary by force by arms, to take indispensable measures for her security against the menace.

BRITISH TROOPS' SPIRIT.

LONDON, October 7th.
A letter from a British artillery officer says the behaviour and fighting spirit of the troops is beyond all praise and has surprised even those who expected most. Another correspondent, describing the monotony in the trenches, says the men play naps by candlelight and dare one another to do mad deeds. One wriggled on his stomach to the German lines and surprised and slew five Prussians. He returned with a maxim slung like a sheep across his shoulders and then returned to fetch the ammunition belt.

AN EGYPTIAN GIFT.

LONDON, October 7th.
The Egyptian Red Crescent Society has given a thousand pounds to the British Red Cross.

THE TWO "EMDENS."

During the past few days persistent rumours have been circulated in Singapore to the effect that the German cruiser *Emden* had sought shelter in the neutral waters at Sabang. This, however, is not the fact, although there is a steamer named *Emden* interned in that port. Along with thirteen other German trading vessels the *Emden*, of 699 tons, has been there for some time past. She belongs to a German firm and is registered at Hamburg.—*Straits Times*.

BRIBE OFFERED TO A SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Severe punishment was meted out by Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy to a Chinese eating-house keeper named Chan Hoi, of No. 120, Queen's Road East, on a charge of offering a bribe in the shape of two bottles of whisky and two boxes of cigarettes to David Davies, a Sanitary Inspector.

It appeared that the defendant was on Wednesday last prosecuted by the Inspector and convicted for non-compliance with a notice from the Sanitary Department. Later that day he sent the articles mentioned in the charge round to the defendant at the Wyndham Hotel. The Inspector at once returned the articles and reported the matter.

The Magistrate told the defendant that he thought he sent the presents to the officer with the object of getting him not to prosecute him again. It was a serious offence, and had the gifts been worth more than \$10 he would have had to commit the defendant for trial. A fine of \$100 or three months was imposed.

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS.

AND A ROUGH GUESS.

Before Mr. Melbourne yesterday, Manuel Sequeira was charged with being drunk and disorderly on Monday in Jubilee Street.

Asked to plead, defendant said, "I plead guilty to being a little bit 'on,' but not to being disorderly, because I was not."

His Worship asked how many previous convictions defendant had, and Acting Inspector Kent said that he could not have been out of prison very long, because he had been sent in for begging for a month's hard labour.

His Worship (to defendant)—Do you know how many previous convictions you have had?

Defendant—At the most 10, at the least eight, your Worship, making a rough guess. (Laughter.)

Fined \$5 or 14 days.

Sergt. Pincoff, of the Water Police, seized 500 rounds of ammunition and one revolver belonging to a Chinese who was a passenger on the *China*. The owner was arrested, and allowed out on bail of \$250. He failed to turn up at the Magistracy, and the bail money was consequently estreated.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

BOARD.

THE WATER-CARRIAGE SYSTEM.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday, the Head of the Department (Mr. G. N. Orme) presiding. There were also present:—Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, C.M.G., Colonel Irwin, Dr. Fitzwilliams, Mr. P. W. Goldring, Messrs. Chan Kai Ming and Ng Hon Tsz, the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. F. Clark), the Assistant Medical Officer of Health (Dr. W. W. Pearce), and the Secretary (Mr. E. W. Hamilton).

The following letter was received from the Government in reply to the Board's letter forwarding a resolution recommending the appointment of a Select Committee to consider the whole question of the water carriage system:—

"Although it is open to the Sanitary Board to investigate the question of the water carriage system, and to make any recommendations they may wish, His Excellency the Governor is unable to see his way to making the proposed Committee a mixed one of Government officers and members of the Sanitary Board by appointing an expert adviser to be a member of the Committee. The Director of Public Works is, however, prepared as a member and Vice-President of the Sanitary Board to give the Board the benefit of such knowledge as he possesses to enable them to arrive at a decision in the matter. The Director of Public Works is not prepared to submit himself for examination by the Committee, but if the Board will state definitely the facts on which they require information, Mr. Churchill will supply it as far as possible."

Dr. Fitzwilliams inquired: How far does "the whole question of water carriage" mean? Does it mean submitting reports on the present system only, or does it go further, and mean to supply plans and estimates for a properly organised and connected water carriage system suitable for Hongkong; and if so, has the Committee applied to Gibraltar and Malta (places which have many things in common with Hongkong in general formation) for plans of their system? There is little doubt that Hongkong can be brought up to date and made a sanitary place if money is forthcoming for the purpose.

Hon. Mr. Hallifax inquired: The enquiry can go no further than to make it clear what the granting of such applications involves, and (consequently) to what extent the Board is justified in recommending them under present conditions.

The President said he took it that it was open to the Board to discuss the question of the water carriage system in all its bearings, whether as to the applicability of the present system or as to the advisability of revising it. He was rather late in the field, and was not prepared to offer any opinion as an expert. He was sorry that their own expert was not present that day.

Dr. Fitzwilliams asked the question in the minutes because it makes a great deal of difference. If this Select Committee are only going to point out the deficiencies in our present system there is very little work, but if they are really going into the question, into the estimates for bringing Hongkong within reasonable distance of being an up-to-date sanitary place, it means the work of probably a year, or a year and a half, and in the meanwhile certain applications have been refused or suspended until this Committee shall have submitted its report. It means a great deal to some of these applicants if they are going to be postponed from fortnight to fortnight. They do not know if it is going to be at least a year, probably two, before they can get an answer. If, on the other hand, it is only provisional, the question arises whether they could not be given further powers, and erect them provisionally. It is a pity that Hongkong at present is not a sanitary place. It has got an out-of-date system which has many deficiencies, and many drawbacks. It is pointed out that it is difficult to drain this place. It is not an extremely easy place to drain. It is a question of money, it is a question of big figures. A flat place like Cairo, which has none of the advantages of Hongkong, has been drained. Gibraltar has a splendid system which is perfectly satisfactory, and here in Hongkong our experts advise us that sea-water is not good for the Hongkong drains. It is perfectly satisfactory for other places. I think I should like to have an answer as to the powers of this Select Committee if it can be supplied.

Hon. Mr. Hewett said the question put by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs was a very definite one. The Sanitary Board realised that fortnight after fortnight they were getting applications for the erection of water closets and urinals in the higher parts in increasing numbers. The Board was not united on the subject, and he was in the opposite camp to Dr. Fitzwilliams. He did not believe that they could gain anything by having fixed water closets in Hongkong. The point was that in view of the increasing number of applications, and the difference in opinions held by members of the Board, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs considered it advisable to bring forward a resolution, which he seconded, and he thought it was a perfectly reasonable application. They realised that the time had now come, in view of these enormous blocks of buildings which were springing up all over the island and in Kowloon, when this question should be properly discussed. He was very disappointed that the Government had not seen the seriousness of the question, and realised that the time had now come when the question must be thrashed out by a competent Committee with full powers, somewhat on the same lines as the Commission appointed by Sir Mathew Nathan some years ago as to the working of a certain Ordinance to be brought in. They wanted something more than advice. They wanted a properly constituted Committee with full powers to deal with and carefully consider evidence, and place it before the Government, and he

thought it was a very serious mistake on the part of the Government that they had not seen their way to fall in with their wishes. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. Hallifax said he desired to make his position clear. He thought the Government's answer as far as it went met all the Board's requirements. It was no use for the Board to try to run before they could walk. They must have a preliminary enquiry and know the present position. When that was done, and they knew exactly what was desired, it would be time to ask the Government on the facts before them to appoint a Committee with such powers as were necessary. They must have a preliminary enquiry first.

Mr. Goldring said the only point he wanted to make was the pending applications. There were some applications put back which he thought even that Board would pass, and he thought it was a great hardship. Referring to the application of the Kowloon Dock, he said they were very anxious that their application should be granted and that the work should be completed before the summer. There was a perfect flushing system. He thought pending applications should be considered.

The President said he supposed the Board would be in a stronger position after receiving extensive data, which would assist the Board to deal with the applications, which were now before them, and he thought it a pity to proceed with these applications while they were expecting a considerable accession to their knowledge as to water carriage. The Committee were expecting returns as to the amount of water carriage that was utilised at present for public, military, naval and civilian latrines, and with those before them they hoped to go further into the question, and be able to advise the Board as to how far they could proceed with the applications. After that, he hoped, the larger question would be raised as to the possibility of extending the system in the future.

Dr. Fitzwilliams—My point is not to extend the system, but to make a system.

The President—I think we have all benefitted to some extent.

Hon. Mr. Hewett—I think it is a system, and a very excellent one, too.

The discussion then closed.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, October 20th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HAZELAND, PRESIDING JUDGE.

AN ALIEN ENEMY SUED.

The case was resumed in which Lo Sun Pang, of 134, Jervois Street, sues Felix Lorria, an Austrian subject carrying on a mineral water business at Wanchai under the style of Hill, Bergdahl & Co. The claim was for the return of \$564.55, being balance of a sum of \$1,000, deposited with the defendant as security under an agreement in writing dated May 2nd, less the sum of \$434.45 for goods supplied by defendant to plaintiff. Plaintiff also claimed \$250 as damages for breach of the said agreement.

At the previous hearing questions of defendant's legal status as an alien enemy subject were raised, and an adjournment was made with the object of inquiries being made.

Mr. Preston (for Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Co., Master) was for defendant and Mr. Willson represented plaintiff.

Mr. Preston, at the outset, explained that his client was an Austrian subject, but he received a licence to trade on Sept. 18th, and therefore was from that date, and in all material respects, equal to a British subject.

Mr. Willson mentioned that that was a point which would arise indirectly, for, as his Lordship would observe, the writ was issued on August 31st. He would contend later on that he was in a position to sue for the return of the deposit at the time the writ was issued.

Plaintiff, in the course of his evidence, said he had been in Hongkong for fifteen years and in this particular business for three to four years. Up to March last his business was principally with the Europeans of Hongkong. At the commencement of April he was introduced to the plaintiff, a suggestion being made that he was going to take up an aerated water trade, and desired to sell defendant's productions. Plaintiff at first took objection to the trade mark on the bottles, saying that the Chinese would think it was Japanese. He (defendant) then suggested using plain Tansan bottles and immediately sketched a new label, which was entirely different to his usual labels. Witness also explained the advantages of the Tansan bottle, this before a deposit on the bottles was made. Plaintiff had no objection to the shape or colour of the bottle, the dark colour, witness explaining, acting favourably upon the chemical composition of the water. Plaintiff never raised any objection to the bottles, which were being used by two other firms in the Colony. It was obvious, however, that the plaintiff did not realise the public resistance there would be to the dark coloured bottles. Subsequently a security of \$1,000 and "a bond of a sort" was arranged for the supply of bottles.

Then, after several orders had been fulfilled plaintiff said that the Chinese were suspicious of the label, saying that they were afraid it was a Chinese make of mineral water. Plaintiff's objection was that there was no English on the label, which was a contradiction of what he had since agreed to. Defendant then suggested an additional label to the one already on the bottle. On another occasion plaintiff said he wanted all white bottles, and defendant gave him as many as he could. Under that agreement plaintiff was to pay him on the first day of every month, but this was not strictly adhered to and an account was incurred of \$400, of which only \$50 had been paid to defendant. Throughout the agreement he (defendant) had made every endeavour to supply plaintiff with as many white bottles as he could.

The hearing was adjourned.

CHARGE AGAINST A SHIP'S OFFICER.

SECOND MATE'S FAILING.

At the Marine Court yesterday, George William Eddy, Master of the British steamer *Anhui*, preferred charges of misconduct against J. W. Scott, second Mate of the ship.

The Court was composed of Commander Basil Taylor, R.N. (President), Lieut. Commander M. R. J. Maxwell Scott, H.M.S. *Tamar*; Mr. G. W. Cockman, Master of P. & O. steamer *Malta*; Mr. F. T. Wheeler, Master of the str. *Kamsang*; and Mr. A. H. Stewart, Master of the str. *Hainan*.

Mr. D. Lewis (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Co., Master) represented the complainant, and Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for defendant.

George William Eddy, Master of the *Anhui*, said that on the 7th October the ship was lying alongside at Shanghai.

Defendant was on duty, and when witness came on board in the morning he sent for him. He had been drinking, and witness accused him of it. Defendant acknowledged it, and said he could not help it; the drink had got control of him. Witness had forgiven him several times previously for the same thing. On the following day witness again saw the defendant under the influence of drink and in a muddled condition at about 9.45. They went to sea at 12.12. Shortly before sailing the Assistant-Superintendent came on board, and witness refused to go to sea with his two mates under the influence of liquor. He told witness to take the first mate off duty and appoint a passenger, who was one of the Company's servants going down to join another ship as mate, in his place. He said that the defendant was recovering, and witness arranged that he should have eight hours "in" in order that he might recover. He came on the bridge as soon as they were clear of the wharf, and remained there until 4 p.m. Defendant came on watch again at 6 p.m. Witness set a course, which, if it had been followed, would have taken the ship a good mile to the north of the fairway bell buoy. No alteration of course was allowed on the ship without witness's sanction. At about 6.10 p.m. he went into his cabin, and chatted with a passenger. Later he heard a crash, and went straight on deck. He saw the defendant, whom he noticed to be in a muddled condition, and said "What have you done now?" He replied "I've done it now. What are you going to do about it?" Witness told him he had been drinking again instead of sleeping from 4 to 6, and took him off duty and sent him to his room. He then found that the ship had fouled the fairway bell buoy, that her port propeller was foul of the moorings, and was hung up by them. Defendant had not returned to duty since.

In cross examination by Mr. Goldring, Captain Eddy said his chief officer was "absolutely drunk" on the 7th and 8th inst., and he described the defendant in the case as a chronic drunkard.

Charles James Thomson, acting chief mate of the *Anhui*, said he was relieved by Scott at 6 o'clock, and passed on to him the Captain's instructions. Scott looked all right to him, but a little flushed. He seemed to quite understand the instructions. The ship was then about 2½ miles from the buoy and was doing about a mile in five minutes over the ground with the tide and all. Scott seemed to be all right when witness relieved him at 4 o'clock.

A Chinese quartermaster who went on duty at 6 o'clock on the day in question spoke as to the second mate changing the course after the master had left the bridge, and then altering it again five minutes before the collision occurred. Witness said he could see the buoy from the wheel.

Defendant gave evidence on his own behalf. He admitted that he was under the influence of liquor on the 7th inst., when he was off duty, but on the 8th (the day concerned in the complaint) he affirmed that he had only three or four drinks all day. When he went on duty at 6 o'clock the Captain and Chief were steering the ship on S. 30 E., and the buoy was right ahead. He had been told to call the Captain when the buoy was approached. He had always passed the buoy on the south side and he altered the course to E. 15 E. The buoy was then still right ahead, the ship not having set either way. Then, seeing that they were getting rather close he hauled her out another half point. The ship then set across quickly and struck abreast of the boilers. He heard no orders given to pass the buoy on the north side.

By the President: He knew the way the tide was setting, but as he had always passed to the south of the buoy he thought he had to do so on this occasion. He did not call the Captain because they were on top of the buoy and he had to look after the ship. He altered the course every day in tidal waters on his own initiative without informing the Captain: it was done every day on the coast. According to his time it was 6.17 when the collision occurred.

It was pointed out that the Captain's time was 6.12—a difference of a mile.

Mr. Lewis cross-examined the defendant as to the quantity of drink he had taken on the 8th inst. Defendant denied that he had seven bottles of beer in the morning and five out of ten cocktails that were taken to his cabin between 4 and 6 o'clock.

George Bernard Wittich also gave evidence for the defence.

Mr. Goldring, for the defence, submitted that the Captain, naturally jealous of his reputation, had unconsciously built up a certain number of facts, which defendant did not dispute. If the defendant had been drunk on the 8th the Marine Superintendent would not have let him sail. He submitted that defendant was never given orders which side to pass the buoy and in altering the course did what he thought best. Defendant's master's certificate was not endorsed and his record was a good one.

THE FINDING.

The Court's finding was as follows: 1.—We find that on 7th Oct. 1914, when

the British ship *Anhui*, O.N. 118,340 of London, was lying alongside her wharf at Shanghai, Mr. James William Scott, the number of whose certificate of competency as master is 037,609 of Liverpool, second mate of the said ship, was under the influence of liquor on board when he should have been on duty.

2. That on the following day, October 8th, Mr. Scott having charge of the deck at 6.10 p.m., being under the influence of drink, altered the course without the permission of the master, with the result that the ship came into collision with the fairway bell buoy at the entrance to the Yangtze river and remained with her propellers foul of the buoy moorings for six hours.

3. We therefore direct that Mr. Scott's certificate of competency as master be suspended for six months, and that a second mate's certificate of competency be issued to him during the period of suspension. Further, his certificate of competency as master shall not be restored to him unless he shall produce valid testimonials of sobriety covering the period of three months next before such restoration.

NEW N.Y.K. STEAMER.

THE "SUWA MARU."

The *Suwa Maru*, the latest addition to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's fleet of European service liners, arrived in Hongkong on Monday en route for London on her maiden voyage.

The new vessel is a sister ship to the *Yasaka Maru* and the *Fushimi Maru*, which are shortly to be put on the European line. She has a gross tonnage of 12,000 tons, and a displacement of 21,000 tons. A speed of 17½ knots can be maintained and the dimensions are: length 325 ft., breadth 63 ft. 5 in., depth 37 ft. 6 in. There is first-class accommodation for 121 passengers, and second-class accommodation for 60 passengers, while 190 steerage passengers have been provided for. All the cabins are beautifully carpeted and furnished with every requisite. Each cabin has a chest of drawers, wardrobe with long mirror fronts, etc., and each berth is fitted with an electric lamp, in addition to the customary ceiling lamp. Special care has been taken to meet all requirements of tropical climates. Every cabin is equipped with electric fans, and is unusually roomy. A number of the cabins are equipped with two berths placed on a level at both ends of the room instead of one over the other as customary, so that there is no question of an "upper or lower berth." A luxurious suite of rooms is on the promenade deck, consisting of a sitting room, a bed room (to be booked together or separately as desired) and a bath-room with lavatory, the bedroom being provided with Neptune's broad silver cot berth. The sitting room is decorated with beautiful sculpture in wood, and is also furnished with sleeping berths which are, however, so designed that all evidence of their being such is concealed when not in use. All the fittings and furniture in these rooms are of the best artistic designs and taste. Ten of the cabins are single berthed, and are specially fitted for those desiring privacy. In every way the general construction of the new vessel is well in keeping with the reputation of the owners.

A large number of people inspected the ship during her stay in the harbour and were loud in their praise of the arrangements made for the comfort of the passengers.

FRENCH CONVENT SALE OF WORK.

Among the assistants who so kindly helped in the above sale at the French Stall of Madame Thomas, Madame du Obaldia, wife of the Consul-General for Panama, should have been mentioned. Although, on account of the War, the bazaar was on a much smaller scale than when it has been held at the City Hall, the results are quite satisfactory and the Reverend Mother Superior wishes to thank all the ladies who so charmingly helped to sell and also all those who by their presence or otherwise contributed towards the success of the sale, which will be continued during this week at the Convent.

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COMMERCIAL.

October 20th,

The AMERICAN MAILER Manchuria is scheduled to arrive here to-morrow.

SUBSIDIALY COLNS.

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